

ROGER BERLINER COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 1

May 14, 2009

Carla Reid, Director Department of Permitting Services 255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor Rockville, MD 20850

Robert Hoyt, Director Department of Environmental Protection 255 Rockville Pike, Suite 120 Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Directors:

We are writing to request a formal explanation of your respective departments' response to the repeated instances in which blizzards of Styrofoam material engulfed the area surrounding the Hilton Garden Inn construction site, including whether either our laws or our enforcement measures require strengthening.

Based on the briefings we have been provided and the published press accounts, the concerns of our citizens were repeatedly brought to your attention, including by our Council offices. We understand there were at least 8 site visits and repeated fines. Needless to say, this response did not prove effective.

Accordingly, we would like to have your offices provide us with a detailed explanation of when your departments were first notified about the issue; what measures your departments took in response; what measures the developer took in response; whether you believe this collective response was adequate; and if not, what recommendations you have to ensure that a similar threat to the public health does not occur in the future.

We look forward to a prompt response.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Roger Berliner

Councilmember George Leventhal

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